

cannot say I am surprised, President Trump's budget, once again, shows his disregard for the values of the health and well-being of families across America.

Just 3 months after signing the farm bill, President Trump proposes a 14.8 percent cut to USDA's—agriculture's—annual budget. This would hinder the Department's ability to implement the bipartisan farm bill Congress just passed overwhelmingly.

With sharp cuts to the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and elimination of the Value Added Producer Grants, these cuts will hurt farmers in the Virgin Islands, as well as other places in our country.

Far from building a stronger Nation, the President's budget would devastate the pillars of economic security for farmers, seniors, and families across America. I wholeheartedly reject this destructive budget request.

FREEDOM AND EQUALITY FOR ALL

(Ms. WEXTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, early this year, I made the decision to hang the transgender flag in front of my office. It was meant to be a small and simple gesture of solidarity.

Overnight, my office was flooded with messages of gratitude. The flag outside of my office had gone viral. Folks from all over called, emailed, wrote, and DM'd my office to thank me for doing it.

But today, we all have an historic opportunity to support substantive legislation that will be transformative for millions of Americans.

The Equality Act is a bipartisan bill that will provide comprehensive, Federal nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ individuals in employment, housing, credit, education, and much more, because today our LGBTQ brothers and sisters can marry the person they love on Sunday and, for that reason alone, be evicted from their housing or fired from their jobs on Monday. That isn't right, but the Equality Act can fix it.

To my colleagues, let's extend the full promise of this Nation to every LGBTQ American. Let's pass the Equality Act.

GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

(Ms. SPANBERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the Girl Scouts of the United States.

On this day in 1912, the Girl Scouts of America was officially launched in Savannah, Georgia, with a meeting of just 18 girls. Now, 107 years later, the Girl Scouts have engaged and inspired

generations of young women and empowered millions to serve their communities.

More than 50 million women are alumni of the Girl Scouts: 58 percent of the women who serve in Congress were Girl Scouts, and 72 percent of the women who serve in the Senate were Girl Scouts as young women.

My daughters and I have been lucky enough to be a small part of this rich history, and, for the past 5 years, I have served as a Girl Scout leader for my daughter's troop. Two-and-a-half million girls and adults nationwide participate in this tremendous program.

In my time as a Girl Scout leader, I have gotten to know so many bright and talented young women, to learn from them and with them, and to use the tools and lessons of the Girl Scouts to instill within these future leaders a fundamental belief in the power of service, the value of character, and the importance in our community.

As storied as this organization's past is, it will always be focused on the future. That is the purpose of Girl Scouts.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-20)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2019.

The actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States.

For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and to maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 12, 2019.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

□ 1230

CALLING FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND JUSTICE FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF BORIS NEMTSOV

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 156) calling for accountability and justice for the assassination of Boris Nemtsov, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 156

Whereas Boris Nemtsov was a Russian statesman who, over 25 years of public service, served as a Member of Parliament, Governor of the Nizhny Novgorod Region, and First Deputy Prime Minister of Russia;

Whereas throughout his life, Boris Nemtsov showed an unwavering commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom, and the rule of law, and to upholding the rights and dignity of Russian citizens;

Whereas Boris Nemtsov was a powerful voice in opposition to the authoritarianism and corruption of Vladimir Putin's government, publicizing its abuses, leading street protests against election fraud and the war on Ukraine, and successfully advocating for international sanctions on human rights violators;

Whereas Boris Nemtsov was co-chairman of a leading opposition party, won election to the Yaroslavl Regional Duma in 2013, and was planning to run for the Russian Parliament in 2016 and challenge Vladimir Putin for the Presidency in 2018;

Whereas, on the evening of February 27, 2015, Boris Nemtsov was shot in the back and killed as he walked across Bolshoi Moskvoretsky Bridge near the Kremlin in Moscow;

Whereas, on March 7 and 8, 2015, Russian authorities arrested five individuals, all of them natives of the Chechen Republic, on suspicion of carrying out the assassination, while a sixth suspect allegedly blew himself up during the attempted arrest;

Whereas the defendants were tried at the Moscow District Military Court, which on June 29, 2017, found them guilty of carrying out the assassination of Boris Nemtsov, and on July 13, 2017, sentenced them to different prison terms;

Whereas at the time of the assassination, the now-convicted gunman, Zaur Dadayev, was serving as a Lieutenant in the Internal Troops of the Interior Ministry of the Russian Federation and as Deputy Battalion Commander in the "Sever" ("North") Regiment stationed in the Chechen Republic, under the command of the Internal Troops Commander, General Viktor Zolotov, and the Kremlin-backed head of the Chechen Republic, Ramzan Kadyrov;

Whereas Ramzan Kadyrov has called Lieutenant Zaur Dadayev a "true patriot" and has publicly referred to Boris Nemtsov as an "enemy of Russia";